

TAKE ACTION TO SUPPORT CIVIL UNIONS!!!

You Can Help Pass State Legislation That Will Provide the Rights, Benefits and Protections of Marriage to Same Sex Couples

Assemblymember Paul Koretz has introduced legislation that will create a Vermont-style civil union system in California. AB 1338, the California Family Protection Act, will provide all of the rights, benefits, protections and responsibilities of marriage bestowed by state law to same sex couples who enter into a civil union. Your elected officials need to hear from you and from your family, friends and colleagues, expressing support for this bill. Share your personal stories and request their support of AB 1338.

1) WRITE TO YOUR STATE ASSEMBLYMEMBER AND SENATOR

(Call your county elections office or go to <http://www.assembly.ca.gov> and <http://www.senate.ca.gov>)

Honorable _____
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

2) WRITE TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

Darrell Steinberg (Chair)
Robert Pacheco (Vice Chair)
Pat Bates
Ellen Corbett
John Dutra

Tom Harman
Hannah-Beth Jackson
John Longville
Kevin Shelley
Howard Wayne

3) WRITE TO THE GOVERNOR

Governor Gray Davis
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

4) TALK ABOUT CIVIL UNIONS WHEREVER YOU GO!

Write to your local newspapers. Stimulate family discussions. Chat with your friends over coffee. Bring it up at church. Help raise awareness and educate all Californians about the routine injustices and extraordinary horrors gay and lesbian couples face because these families are denied the rights and protections that come with marriage.

5) DON'T FORGET ABOUT AB 25!

In addition, legislation has been introduced that will extend basic but critical protections to lesbian, gay and senior citizens families that register as domestic partners. Current law provides hospital visitation rights, health insurance coverage for public employees and a registry in the Secretary of State's office.

AB 25 (Migden) proposes 12 new family rights and protections, including the right to recover wrongful death damages, sick leave, unemployment insurance, stepparent adoption, medical decision making and inheritance rights. AB 25 and AB 1338 are both important and can be successfully implemented together. Your legislator and the Governor should hear from you on this bill as well!

For more information, contact Teresa Stark in the Office of Assemblyman Paul Koretz - (916) 319-2042